



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In Chicago, prices were higher on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. The market tone was in a full range of steady to firm entering the holiday weekend. Demand was light to fairly good. Supplies were sufficient to close for trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were adequate to barely adequate for the mostly moderate to occasionally good demand. Light type fowl were fully sufficient to ample for the light demand.

**NORTH ATLANTIC** In Boston prices were unchanged to 2 cents higher on extra large and large and remained unchanged on medium. Elsewhere prices were unchanged. The market tone ranged steady to at times firm. Demand was mixed entering the long holiday weekend. Supplies were generally adequate for current requirements. Breaking stock offerings were usually sufficient for a moderate to occasionally good demand. Light type hens were fully adequate to ample, demand was light.

**NEW YORK** Prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was steady to firm entering the Memorial Day weekend. Retail and distributive demand was mostly light to occasionally moderate, better where limited feature activity was planned or in progress for next week. Supplies were generally adequate for present needs.

**MIDWEST** Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were up 2 cents for large and unchanged for the balance of the sizes. Prices in other reported areas were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to at times fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to good. Food service movement was mostly moderate to instances fairly good. Supplies were adequate to at times close with some graders working extended schedules. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was mostly moderate for the adequate to barely adequate offerings. Some breakers needing product for immediate delivery are reported it difficult to locate at current prices. Schedules full-time to over-time. Floor stocks adequate. Trade sentiment steady to at least steady.

**CHICAGO** Prices for larger sizes improved by 2 cents, lighter weights unchanged. The market tone was steady to fully steady. Retail and food service demand moderate and best where limited features are planned or in progress. Supplies mixed larger sizes more closely balanced.

**SOUTHERN** Prices were unchanged. The market tone was in a full range of steady to firm entering the holiday weekend. Asking prices for the upcoming week were trending unchanged on mediums but higher on the larger sizes. Demand was light to moderate, best where features were planned next week. Supplies were adequate to close for trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for the moderate to occasionally good demand. Light type hens were fully sufficient to ample for the light demand.

**WEST COAST** Prices unchanged. The market tone was firm on the large sizes with asking prices for next week 8-9 cents higher on jumbo, 6 cents higher on extra large, and 5 cents higher on large. Medium were steady with asking prices unchanged. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings light on the large sizes, easily adequate on mediums.

**PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.**

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
<b>NORTHEAST CITIES</b>			
Boston (Brown)	89-96	78-85	66-68
New York	57-61	55-59	44-48
Philadelphia	49-59	48-57	43-46
<b>SOUTHERN CITIES</b>			
Atlanta (1) (2)	41.5-47	39.5-44	34-37
Jackson (1)	49-51	46-48	42-45
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	52-64	49-59	42-55
<b>MIDWEST CITIES</b>			
Chicago	48-52	46-50	33-37
Detroit (2)	39-44	38-43	33-37
Major Ohio Cities (2)	41-45	40-43	31-35
Major Wisconsin Cities	42-49	41-47	33-38
<b>WESTERN CITIES</b>			
Houston (1)	62-64	59-62	52-55
Southern California (Grade AA)(4)	65-71	63-66	56-58
California (Grade AA) (1) (3)	81	76	69
(1) - Prices reported weekly	(3) - Reported Invoice prices		
(2) - Delivered Warehouse	(4) - Prices to Retailers		

**CALIFORNIA EGGS** Prices unchanged. The market tone was firm on the large sizes with asking prices for next week 9 cents higher on jumbo, 6 cents higher on extra large, and 5 cents higher on large. Medium and small were steady with asking prices unchanged. Retailer demand mainly moderate. Offerings light on the large sizes, mediums easily adequate. Small benchmark price 49. Ads in Southern California: major- large 18 pack buy 1 get 1 free; smaller outlets- jumbo dozen 99, extra large dozen 89, large 18 pack 99, medium 20 pack 87-99.

**CALIFORNIA** California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	85
EXTRA LARGE	81
LARGE	76
MEDIUM	69

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	67-77
EXTRA LARGE	65-71
LARGE	63-66
MEDIUM	56-58

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	239-299
EXTRA LARGE	229-279
LARGE	199-219
MEDIUM	179-199

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK** Prices unchanged. Demand was mostly moderate for the adequate to barely adequate offers. Breakers needing product for immediate delivery report product is difficult to locate at current prices. Finished product demand reported as fairly good on all items. Schedules were full-time to overtime. Floor stocks adequate. Trade sentiment was at steady to at least steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
NEST RUN	27-29
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	11-16
CENTRAL STATES AREA:	
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI	

**EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK** Mostly prices were unchanged to higher when compared to early week's trading. Trade sentiment was fully steady to instances firm with buyers closely monitoring market developments. Demand was moderate to occasionally good. Supplies were usually sufficient for breaking needs. Next week's schedules were reported as normal to less than normal as most plants will be closed for Memorial Day. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending May 18, 2002 were 2% higher than last week and 5 % higher than the same week a year ago.

CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	27-31	27-29
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	11-18.25	13-15
EASTERN REGION AREA:		
AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

**EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E -18-May-02**  
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,271,457	29,855	12,690	6,857	3,256	4,481
PW	1,260,490	29,369	12,628	6,786	3,097	4,525
LY	1,167,435	26,823	11,667	6,310	2,359	4,100
% CHG PW	1	2	0	1	5	-1
% CHG LY	9	11	9	9	38	9
2002	23,150,417	536,140	229,855	123,550	55,306	83,220
2001	22,339,198	505,805	227,760	123,840	48,121	80,215
% CHG YTD	4	6	1	0	15	4

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE - (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.38	42.29	41.89
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.85	38.70	38.37

**NATIONAL LIQUID** Pasteurized salt yolk reported at 61 to 65 cents f.o.b. and no pasteurized whites were reported. Trade sentiment was steady to at times fully steady for whole egg, steady for whites and fully steady to firm for yolk. Demand increased to moderate to fairly good for whole egg, mostly moderate for whites, and good to very good for yolk. Offerings of whites were adequate, whole egg was adequate to barely adequate, and yolk was barely adequate to tight for current needs. Nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged from last week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM Friday 24 May, 2002 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	15	28-30	28.43	-.50
WHITES	14	10-15.5	11.39	-.74
YOLKS	10	59-65	62.80	1.67

**EASTERN REGION FROZEN** Mostly prices were unchanged on whole and whites, but higher on yolks when compared to previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was steady on whites, fully steady on whole, and firm on yolks. Trading and demand improved but was still in a light to moderate range. Supplies were adequate for immediate trade needs, although yolks were held with increased confidence. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending May 18, 2002 were 4% higher than the previous week and a year ago.

Wholesale Selling Prices (Cents Per Pound in 30 LB. Containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	(MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	LTL RANGE
WHOLE	39-45	41-42	49-53
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		63-85
WHITES	22-32	22-25	27-45
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	71-75	72-75	79-83
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	67-72	68-71	75-82

(/) - Whole + Yolk + Sweetner, Generally 28-32% Egg Solids.

**CENTRAL REGION FROZEN** Frozen whole egg values were unchanged to 1 cents higher for whole egg, unchanged for whites, and unchanged to 2 cents higher for sugar and salt yolk. Trade sentiment was fully steady for whole egg, steady for whites, and fully steady to firm for sugar and salt yolk. Offerings were usually adequate and most sellers had confidence going into next week. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Breaking stock supplies were adequate to at times short with prices unchanged when compared to last week.

Wholesale Selling Prices (Cents Per LB in 30 LB. Cans) Trucklots

	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	41-45	
WHITES	22-32	22-25
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	72-76	72-75
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	68-71	68-70

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN** Prices unchanged on whole and whites, 2 cents higher on yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 5/18 was 5% more than the previous week. Frozen demand fair and freezer stocks building.

Wholesale Selling Prices, FOB Shipping Point (Cents Per LB in 30 LB Containers)

	RANGE
WHOLE	48-51
WHITES	28-31
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	79-82
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	75-78

**NATIONAL DRIED EGG** Mostly prices were unchanged to high on yolks and whole, unchanged on blends, but unchanged to slightly lower on albumen when compared to last week's trading. The market tone was at least steady on whole, firm on yolks, and somewhat unsettled on albumen. Demand and trading was light to fair with caution still reported on long term commitments. Supplies were adequate to available, although yolks were held with confidence. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending May 18, 2002 were 5% more than the previous week, and 38% higher than the same week last year. The overall total dried egg year to date change was 15% more than a year ago. Some trade sources were concerned about the volume of imports from Canada. So far this year the total pounds of dried egg products imported from Canada to the US was about 228% more this year than last year. Yolks represented about 20% of the total volume, whole 34%, and albumen 46%.

Wholesale Selling Prices, Dollars Per LB., in Containers, Trucklot and Less-Than-Trucklot Volumes.

WHOLE	1.40-1.75	MOSTLY	1.50-1.55
YOLKS	1.60-2.00	MOSTLY	1.70-1.84
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	1.65-1.95	MOSTLY	1.70-1.85
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.10-1.35	MOSTLY	1.12-1.15

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MAY 17, 2002-MAY 23, 2002

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS							
89.00								55.00							
SE		NE		MW		SC		NW		SW		TOTAL LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W XL	—	42.00	36.00	—	—	—	1.00	GNR W XL	35.00	36.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 1	33.29	36.36	30.90	33.43	35.08	36.23	32.00	GNR W 1	—	37.00	—	44.00	—	—	2.00
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	27.00	29.00	1.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00
GNR BR 1	—	37.00	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W J	47.00	—	—	—	—	54.00	1.00
GL W XL	—	41.93	38.67	40.23	39.10	—	39.50	GL W XL	46.00	45.00	—	—	—	47.42	15.25
GL W LG	—	40.34	35.00	40.95	36.81	—	33.25	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	47.10	16.00
GL W MD	25.00	29.50	26.33	28.00	25.67	27.40	18.25	GL W MD	27.00	31.00	—	—	—	32.24	11.75
GL W SM	—	—	23.14	24.57	20.00	—	4.50	GL W SM	—	—	—	24.00	—	—	1.00
GL BR XL	—	—	40.00	41.00	—	—	.50	GL BR XL	37.00	—	—	—	—	43.00	.75
NRBS - 50	29.50	32.50	28.80	26.00	—	—	2.25	NRBS - 45	20.00	—	—	—	—	—	2.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	27.30	28.70	31.00	29.08	24.25	NRBS - 36	—	21.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	24.00	3.00								
NRBS - 39	21.00	22.50	16.00	18.00	—	18.00	6.50								
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	14.50	16.50	2.00								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

**EASTERN LIGHT** Prices were unchanged. Demand was light for the fully adequate to ample offerings. Processings schedules for next week were less than normal to normal. Movement of findshed product was fair with offerings generally adequate. The undertone was steady.

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices unchanged. Offers ample for the fair at best demand. Alternate forms of disposition being utilized to remove hens. Schedules for next week reduced due to Memorial Day holiday. Trade sentiment steady.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate at best for fully adequate offerings of spent leghorn fowl. Finished sales were fair with supplies easily covering needs. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was steady at best.

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plants worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

**LIVE TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER LB., DAY OF NEGOTIATION, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0-0	(1)
Eastern Light	0-0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading		
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT		

**SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA** FOR WEEK ENDING 24-May-02 AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	56.02	54.14	45.63
SOUTHERN	50.48	47.31	41.58
MIDWEST	44.49	42.90	34.49
WESTERN	71.92	68.03	60.76
TWELVE METRO AREAS	58.60	55.96	48.13

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS.

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Majority prices were generally unchanged on both heavy and light canners when compared to a week earlier. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate. Demand ranged light to moderate, and trading was somewhat limited on light canners. The undertone was cautious and generally no better than steady.

CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, W/O FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b> (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-25 MAJORITY 21.5-22.5	31-38 MAJORITY 31-32
CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b> (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> (WITHOUT NECKS)
22-27.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24	32.5-40 MAJORITY 33-33.5

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION** W/E 18-May-02

(PRELIMINARY)	U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY		
	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
(THOUSANDS)	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	1,846	1,280	3,126
LAST WEEK	2,008	1,280	3,288
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,602	1,460	3,062
TO-DATE/2002	36,887	26,236	63,123
TO-DATE/2001	36,436	26,736	63,172

	U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA		
	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
(THOUSANDS)	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	332	4	336
LAST WEEK	352	4	356
SAME WEEK YR AGO	509	0	509
TO-DATE/2002	6,500	28	6,528
TO-DATE/2001	10,152	148	10,300
SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION			

	TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA		
	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
(THOUSANDS)	HENS	HENS	HENS
HEAD	2,178	1,284	3,462
LAST WEEK	2,360	1,284	3,644
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,111	1,460	3,571
TO-DATE/2002	43,387	26,264	69,651
TO-DATE/2001	46,588	26,884	73,472

**Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade****U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending May 11, 2002		Year-To-Date		
	2002	2001 /1	2002	2001
Liquid	248	204	6,631	4,328
Frozen	0	0	0	40
Dried	0	0	8	22
Total	248	204	6,639	4,390

**U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending May 11, 2002		Year-To-Date		
	2002	2001/1	2002	2001
Liquid	118	63	1,888	1,690
Frozen	11	12	1,294	579
Dried	120	0	1,505	226
Total	249	75	4,687	2,495

**Inspected Shell Eggs****U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending May 11, 2002		Year-To-Date		
	2002	2001 /1	2002	2001
Jumbo	33	0	1,061	87
Extra Large	860	1,680	4,328	13,221
Large	3,057	4,033	29,770	38,894
Medium	0	1,670	17,493	15,678
Ungraded	10,290	9,300	87,000	91,844
Misc	150	3,750	11,134	22,878
Total	14,390	20,433	150,786	182,602

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

**IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, LOOSE, AT FARM (CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS). CENTS PER DOZEN**

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
27-30	14-18	6-9

**NEW ENGLAND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM CENTS PER DOZEN.**

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
117-120	75-78	64-67	47-50	25-28

**DETROIT PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE. CENTS PER DOZEN.**

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
45-55	38-42	36-41	30-34	23-27

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)**

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 19-May-02	2,296	194,453	75,484
AM 1-May-02	1,788	151,242	71,915
CHG	508	43211	3569
PCT CHG	28	29	5

**NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT, MAY 21, 2002. PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.**

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	103	92	80	58
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	96-100	85-89	73-77	51-55
MOSTLY	98-99	87-88	75-76	53-54
RHODE ISLAND	102-106	91-95	79-83	57-61
MOSTLY	102	91	79	57
VERMONT	104-105	93-95	83	-
MOSTLY	104	93	-	-

**MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS**

W/E 18-May-02

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS	PW	LY
ATLANTA	19.5	22.0	-11 -22
BOSTON	3.7	3.3	12 0
CHICAGO	47.0	53.8	-13 18
DETROIT	24.8	30.5	-19 -23
KANSAS CITY	3.3	3.0	10 -21
LOS ANGELES	81.6	85.2	-4 -24
NEW ORLEANS	11.8	13.1	-10 44
NEW YORK	34.6	33.7	3 -3
ST. LOUIS	17.5	15.5	13 -6
SAN FRANCISCO	21.4	19.8	8 9
TOTAL	265.2	279.9	-5 -10
4 WK MVG AVG	268.5		

**COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT**

W/E 18-May-02

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	217.5	1	1
E.N. CENTRAL	458.1	-8	-9
W.N. CENTRAL	253.0	-3	-14
S. ATLANTIC	126.0	1	0
S. CENTRAL	60.9	-4	-3
WEST	147.9	-15	-20
TOTAL	1263.4	-6	-9
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		89	88

**CHICKEN AND EGGS - April Egg Production Down Slightly -**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.08 billion during April 2002, down slightly from last year. Production included 5.99 billion table eggs and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 62.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 2002 averaged 336 million, slightly lower than the average number of layers during April 2001. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,109 eggs, slightly higher than the 2,106 eggs in April 2001.

April 2002 contained 22 weekdays, and four Saturdays, compared to 21 weekdays and four Saturdays in April 2001.

All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 2002, totaled 335 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 335 million layers consisted of 274 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 58.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.71 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 2002, averaged 69.4 eggs per 100 layers, slightly higher than a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.64 billion eggs during April 2002, down slightly from a year ago. The average number of layers during April, at 314 million, was down 1 percent from a year earlier.

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